

# The Democratic Banner.

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## BANKING LAWS HELD INEFFECTIVE

### Comptroller Murray Suggests A Number Of Changes

Appears Before Pujo Probers—Furnishes The Committee Such Data From His Office As President Taft Had Directed Him To Supply—Admits Present Inspection Of Banks To Be Superficial, And Suggests Publication Of Lists Of Stockholders

Washington, Jan. 9.—Lawrence O. Murray, comptroller of the currency, testifying before the Pujo committee, acknowledged that the present banking law is an archaic, illogical, unscientific and superficial statute which needs amendment in practically every clause. He was questioned by Samuel Untermyer, counsel for the committee.

Mr. Murray furnished the committee such data from his office as President Taft had directed him to supply, which, however, was but a small part of the information which the committee asked the comptroller to furnish.

Mr. Murray condemned without reservation the practice which, he said, is a growing evil, the acceptance by directors or officers of national banks of personal compensation from borrowers to whom the funds of the bank are loaned. He said that legislation should be passed providing for criminal prosecution of the practice.

Murray favored a provision of law which would prevent the stockholders of banks from transferring their stock on the verge of collapse of their banks, and he also indorsed a scheme to force banks to make public the list of securities held as assets by national banks. Publicity of lists of stockholders in national banks, he said, would be beneficial.

Inspection Ineffective. Questioned by Mr. Untermyer, Mr. Murray outlined the method of the examination of national banks by his office, and asserted that under the present system the inspection is "ineffective."

"It is merely a superficial examination, is it not?" asked Mr. Untermyer. "Yes, that is about all," replied the comptroller.

The comptroller said that there are about 105 bank examiners to superintend the affairs of 7,500 banks. In reply to questions he said that in New York city these inspectors worked with the bank examiners of the clearing house association and co-operated with them in connection with the appraisal of loans and securities held by banks.

Mr. Murray further said that his knowledge of clearing house associations was merely incidental. "We have received complaints from time to time from banks, who said that certain clearing house rules were detrimental to their business," he continued, "but we have always told them we had no jurisdiction."

Stock Exchange Fixes Value. The comptroller said that bank examiners fixed the value of securities

by the price on the New York stock exchange when the stocks were listed there.

"Then if the stock quotation is for a false or fictitious value, the examiner accepts it?" asked Mr. Untermyer.

"Yes," said the comptroller. Mr. Untermyer asked about the relations of the First National bank to the First Securities company and the National City bank to the National City company. Mr. Murray said his office had no record of the relation of these concerns.

"But you know that the president and attorney general have had these cases under consideration?" asked Mr. Untermyer.

"Yes," answered the witness. Mr. Murray stated that, at the request of the committee, he had prepared a statement of the loans of banks which could lend more than \$1,000,000 to an individual, but that he could not submit the statement to the committee until directed to do so by the president.

There are but 13 national banks, he said, which could make loans of \$1,000,000 to an individual. But he could not say how many could loan \$1,000,000 to the same interest by dividing the loan among individuals representing the same interest.

## SUSPECTS SPY ON JURY

Stenheville, O., Jan. 9.—Prosecuting Attorney J. S. Paisley declared that the present grand jury will not be allowed to investigate any of the political corruption cases in Jefferson county, because he is afraid of one member of it, who he believes acted as a go-between and a spy during the probe last month. Paisley states he will demand a new grand jury to investigate the alleged election frauds.

Ice Cream Rate Protest. Columbus, O., Jan. 9.—That rates are far too high and that the service afforded them is poor was the gist of testimony offered before the public service commission by the Ohio Association of Ice Cream Manufacturers. The ice cream men claimed the growth of their business was retarded by delays in shipping.

## FAVORS THE SWORD FOR JUST DEALINGS

Philadelphia, Jan. 9.—Bishop Joseph P. Berry of the Methodist Episcopal church, in addressing the Evangelical Alliance, made a plea for a bloody exterminating war, if necessary, to bring about righteous and just dealings among nations.

"I am not one of those who mourn when there are wars and rumors of wars," declared the bishop. "The promoters of peace and the theorists who are shouting so loud for universal peace have lost sight of the fact that there is a sublime philosophy in international disagreements and

strife. Out of the great wars God in his infinite wisdom brought a benediction on the people. He did not come into the world to bring peace, but brought a sword to carve out peace."

Wrapper Makers Join Strike.

New York, Jan. 9.—There were several minor outbreaks in connection with the strike of the garment workers, while the ranks of the strikers were augmented by a general strike of the kimonos and wrapper makers.

## JAMES A. PATTEN MUST STAND TRIAL FOR CORNERING COTTON



Washington, Jan. 9.—By upholding certain disputed counts against James A. Patten and others, charged with a violation of the Sherman anti-trust law in running a so-called cotton corner, the supreme court sent the case against the men to trial in the lower courts. Patten, Eugene G. Scates, Frank B. Hayne and William P. Brown were indicted in New York on charges of conspiring on Jan. 1, 1910, to "corner" cotton by extensive buying on the New York Cotton Exchange, as a result of which the price would be enhanced and ultimately bring arbitrary and excessive prices. The conspiracy was described as calculated to yield \$10,000,000 in profits.

## OHIO RIVER OVERFLOWS FACTORIES UNDER WATER

Steubenville, O., Jan. 9.—The Ohio river is at flood stage here, with several more feet expected. All the industries along the river are flooded and are closed down. Traction lines are under water and have ceased operations. The Wheeling & Lake Erie railroad branch has suspended trains and the Cleveland & Pittsburgh railroad will be forced to stop.

## FIRE LOSS REDUCED

Columbus, O., Jan. 9.—The fire loss in Ohio in 1912 was less than what it was in 1911, according to a report issued by State Fire Marshal J. W. Zuber. The loss during the past year approximated \$5,000,000, compared with a loss of \$5,718,000 for the year before. Fires of incendiary origin were fewer during the past year than in any year since the establishment of the fire marshal's department in 1900. The department secured 85 convictions for arson in 1911 and 72 in 1912. These two years were the most successful in the number of convictions secured.

## SENATORS SEE WILSON

Trenton, N. J., Jan. 9.—President-elect Wilson talked politics for three hours with Senator Hoke Smith of Georgia and Senator Thomas P. Gore of Oklahoma. With his visitors, Governor Wilson went over matters to be taken up at the special session of congress, particularly the tariff and currency reform. The abrogation of the seniority rule in senate committee assignments was briefly touched upon.

Ansherry Would Succeed Burton.

Washington, Jan. 9.—Representative T. T. Ansherry of Delaware will be a candidate for the United States senate to succeed Senator Burton.

## DUCHESS OF CONNAUGHT

She is Critically Ill in a Montreal Hospital.



## OLD WEAKNESS RETURNS

Duchess of Connaught Removed to Montreal For Treatment.

Ottawa, Ont., Jan. 9.—A sudden and serious recurrence of the illness which prostrated the Duchess of Connaught when she was in Quebec last May, and necessitated an operation at that time, has again made it necessary to remove the duchess to Montreal for treatment. She was taken on a special train and was accompanied by the Duke of Connaught, the Princess Patricia and Major Worthington and Mrs. Garrow and Chipman.

No attempt is made to conceal the fact that the gravest fears are entertained as to the duchess' recovery. All social functions at government house have been canceled.

## LIVE STOCK AND GRAIN

CHICAGO, JAN. 9.

Cattle—Heaves, \$5.50 to \$6.00; Texas steers, \$4.75 to \$5.00; western steers, \$5.75 to \$6.00; stockers and feeders, \$4.40 to \$4.75; cows and heifers, \$3.50 to \$4.00; calves, \$3.75 to \$4.00.

Hogs—Light, \$7.20 to \$7.40; mixed, \$7.20 to \$7.40; heavy, \$7.20 to \$7.40.

Sheep and Lambs—Native sheep, \$4.50 to \$4.75; western, \$4.00 to \$4.25; yearlings, \$5.00 to \$5.25; native lambs, \$5.75 to \$6.00; western, \$5.00 to \$5.25.

Wheat—No. 2 red, \$1.10 to \$1.12; corn—No. 2 yellow, \$0.85 to \$0.87; oats—No. 2 white, \$0.40 to \$0.42.

Receipts—Cattle, 15,000 head; hogs, 30,000; sheep, 20,000.

PITTSBURGH, JAN. 9.

Cattle—Choice, \$5.50 to \$5.75; prime, \$5.10 to \$5.40; tidy butchers, \$4.75 to \$5.00; fat cows, \$3.50 to \$3.75; fat bulls, \$3.00 to \$3.25; stockers and feeders, \$4.50 to \$4.75; fresh cows and springers, \$3.50 to \$3.75; calves, \$3.00 to \$3.25.

Hogs—Heavy hogs, \$7.00 to \$7.25; medium and heavy Yorkers, \$7.00 to \$7.25; light Yorkers and pigs, \$7.00 to \$7.25.

Sheep and Lambs—Prime wethers, \$5.00 to \$5.25; good mixed, \$4.50 to \$4.75; fair mixed, \$4.00 to \$4.25; lambs, \$5.00 to \$5.25.

Receipts—Hogs, 15,000.

CINCINNATI, JAN. 9.

Cattle—Steers, \$4.50 to \$4.75; cows, \$2.75 to \$3.00; heifers, \$4.00 to \$4.25; calves, \$3.00 to \$3.25.

Hogs—Packers, \$7.00 to \$7.25; common, \$6.00 to \$6.25; pigs and lights, \$5.75 to \$6.00; stags, \$4.00 to \$4.25.

Sheep and Lambs—Sheep, \$3.00 to \$3.25; lambs, \$5.00 to \$5.25.

Wheat—No. 2 red, \$1.10 to \$1.12; corn—No. 2 mixed, \$0.85 to \$0.87; oats—No. 2 mixed, \$0.40 to \$0.42.

Receipts—Cattle, 15,000 head; hogs, 3,200; sheep, 15,000.

CLEVELAND, JAN. 9.

Cattle—Choice fat steers, \$7.25 to \$7.50; good to choice steers, \$6.00 to \$6.25; fat bulls, \$3.50 to \$3.75; cows, \$3.00 to \$3.25; milkers and springers, \$3.00 to \$3.25; calves, \$3.00 to \$3.25.

Hogs—Heavy hogs, \$7.00 to \$7.25; medium and heavy Yorkers, \$7.00 to \$7.25; light Yorkers and pigs, \$7.00 to \$7.25.

Sheep and Lambs—Choice wethers, \$5.00 to \$5.25; good mixed, \$4.50 to \$4.75; fair mixed, \$4.00 to \$4.25; lambs, \$5.00 to \$5.25.

Receipts—Cattle, 15,000 head; hogs, 4,000; sheep, 400; calves, 200.

BOSTON, JAN. 9.

Wool—Ohio and Pennsylvania XX, 22c; Delaware washed, 24c; half-blood combing, 25c to 26c; three-eighths blood combing, 26c to 27c; delaine unwashed, 28c to 29c; delaine washed, 30c.

## ELEVEN LAWYERS AND TWO LAYMEN

### Composition Of The House Judiciary Committee

Swain Explains Innovation—Duty Of The Laymen Not To Let Any Bill Out Of The Committee That Is Not Clearly Expressed And Fully Understood By Them—Representative Cowan Selected As Chairman Of The House Finance Committee

Columbus, O., Jan. 9.—Speaker Swain announced he had selected Charles J. Criswell of Morrow county and Percy Tetlow of Columbiana county as members of the house judiciary committee. The significance of the announcement is that Mr. Criswell is a farmer and Mr. Tetlow is a coal miner. The judiciary committee is a lawyers' committee. Not since the first legislature met in 1803 has there been a judiciary committee of either branch which was not composed wholly of lawyers.

The speaker is fully aware of the innovation. He acted designedly. He said: "There has been much criticism of the involved phraseology of statutes, of ambiguity and unclear language."

"Well, I have put two laymen, a Republican and a Democrat, on the judiciary committee and have instructed them their duty is not to let any bill get out of the committee that is not clearly expressed and fully understood by them. I believe the innovation will justify itself."

With Messrs. Criswell and Tetlow on the committee will be 11 lawyers, headed by Representative Kilpatrick of Trumbull, who is to be chairman. Speaker Swain will not give the Republican minority any chairmanship.

He said however, he would give them larger representation on committees than their numbers warrant. There will be five Republican members on committees of 15, four on committees of 13 and three on committees of 11 and nine.

Representative John Cowan of Putnam declared the speaker had informed him of his definite selection as chairman of the finance committee.

HOUSE FOR HUGHES RULES?

Require Public Record of All Committee Proceedings.

Columbus, O., Jan. 9.—The new Democratic house will adopt or reject within a few weeks tentative rules drafted by E. W. Hughes on order of the Seventy-fifth General assembly. The most vital departure in the Hughes rules requires a public record be kept of all committee proceedings. The vote probably will be the first alignment between progressives and reactionaries. It is Hughes' purpose "to stop the dirty work that has heretofore been done in the dark of the committee rooms." In committee good bills have been shelved or emasculated. No records have been kept of the committee procedure. It has been next to impossible to fix the responsibility on those culpable.

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